



Soccer News



The Official Organ of
VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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Price 6d

Second Semi-Final of The Dockerty Cup

JUVENTUS v. J.U.S.T.

at Olympic Park

REFLECTIONS — *What Of The Future?*

BY ALEX JARVIS

Now that season 1951 is drawing to a close, it is time that club officials did some stocktaking and ask themselves, "What progress has been made this year?"

The answer is—"None." After a visit, such as we have had from the Englishmen, one would expect teams to be trying out new moves, but alas, the seed has fallen on barren ground so far. Also, when one excludes the influx of British and new Australian players in the last year or two we have not much left to prove we have made any real progress in the game, as many clubs still have no schoolboy or junior teams.

Insofar as the administration side of the association is concerned, too many members of council were on several sub-committees at the one time, with the result that one sub-committee got some work done whilst the others did not function at all.

As a member of the Laws and Constitution sub-committee and also the Publicity Committee this season, I consider that I have wasted my time, as the former has not had one meeting and the latter very few.

Efforts were made by some members to arrange meetings of these sub-committees, but owing to either the inertia or preoccupation with other work by other members, very little has been done. Furthermore, the game of soccer can only be efficiently governed when the Constitution and League Rules are improved to cover present conditions, and when we elect the 10 best available men to the council, together with a live-wire executive, all of whom know their rules and apply them correctly, instead of the inconsistent decisions we have seen this year. Club officials must think deeply before the annual meeting comes along and instruct their delegates how to vote to ensure that some new members are given the opportunity to be of service to our grand old game.

It is certain that, given the transfusion it at present needs, it can go on to greater heights in the next two or three years. Otherwise, we may as well realize that unless it is shrewdly and judiciously led in the near future, the game will go back instead of forward.

Editorial

All communications re "Soccer News" must be sent to the Editor, V. J. M. Dixon, 42 Nelson Street, Sandringham, S.8.



Today's game strikes a new note in Dockerty Cup competitions, for it is the first time that two National teams have met in a semi-final. Whatever the result today a National team will be playing Brighton in the final. J.U.S.T. and Juventus—both of which have gained promotion to the first division next season—have already played each other twice in the League competitions. So far the honours have been with J.U.S.T. However the games were both so close that fans need have no fear that the game will lack interest. J.U.S.T. for two seasons has shown Victorians that the British Isles are not the only places where it is possible to learn polished football.

The team's style is beautiful to watch. Juventus on the other hand has improved beyond all comparison from the side that it had in the third division a few seasons back. Its style also leaves little to be desired. Although in the early part of the season there seemed to be a lack of finish in front of goal this weakness has now definitely disappeared.

The game today, with all that hangs on the result, is going to lack nothing for excitement. Spectators can be certain of getting real worth for their money.

As for the final, which will be played next Saturday (unless today the game ends in a draw), it can safely be said that whichever team wins today is capable of extending Brighton to the full. So we can confidently claim that anyone who fails to turn up for the final is not a lover of good soccer, for it is likely to be the battle of the season.

For this final, "Soccer News" is producing the biggest and most elaborate number that we have so far turned out. Lavishly illustrated with pictures of all senior and many junior winners and many other photographs this number will cover fully all phases of the soccer during the 1951 season. It will be a treat no one should miss. Copies will be on sale only at Olympic Park, except in the case of clubs which actually write in to order them.

BEAR IN MIND—"Soccer News" Cup Final Edition.

OBITUARY

We very much regret that since our last number appeared Mr. Howard K. Ingham, chairman of the council of the V.A.S.F.A., has passed away after a long illness. Only those who knew him can fully appreciate what a great gap Mr. Ingham's death has created in the ranks of soccer, but to all connected with the game his hard work for soccer was all too obvious.

To Mrs. Ingham and his family we offer our very deepest sympathy and assurance that our thoughts are with them at this time.

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HOME and AWAY

By REX BENSON

★

W.A. FORGES AHEAD

The W.A. Soccer Association hope to have ready their own enclosed ground at East Fremantle for next season. When will Victoria be able to do the same?



REFS. ON STRIKE

South Australia has suffered a surfeit of spectator "incidents" in recent weeks. On Saturday, September 1, the South Australian Referees Association refused to operate as a protest, and thirty S.A. matches were cancelled as a consequence.

BAN ON BROADCASTING

A blow to the "fireside fans" has been the decision by English League clubs to ban broadcasting of matches. Their only fee has been £5. It is hoped that the big matches, such as the F.A. Cup Final, will not be affected.

ON AGAIN — OFF AGAIN

Temperamental N.S.W. star Frank Parsons is in trouble again. Parsons "did his block" against Granville two weeks ago, and was ordered off, leaving his club, Leichhardt, with ten men to go down, 0-3.

SOUTH AFRICAN TOUR

Wolverhampton Wanderers won all twelve matches in the South African tour, some by the narrowest of margins.

NO PROMOTION

Queensland Association is considering a proposal for doing away with promotions and relegations. Some circles there feel that greater security should be given to clubs paying high rentals for first-class grounds, etc. Some people in Victoria feel that this might apply to clubs spending money on training juniors.

WHO CAN BEAT THIS?

In a long distance kick competition Hazeldine (North Perth) reached 61 yards, bettering the attempt of an Australian Rules entrant with the round ball.

SOCCER NEWS PHOTOGRAPHS

Photos which have appeared in "Soccer News" may be obtained from Mr. F. Waghorn, 60 Dunloe Ave., Mont Albert. Sizes and prices on application.

NOTICE

The captains of the teams taking part in the Cup Final will be interviewed from 3AW on Friday, September 28, at 6.30 p.m. The final broadcast of "Soccer Spotlight" will take place on Saturday, September 29, from 3UZ at 10.15 a.m. Mr. S. Beaton, Secretary of the Association, will give a summary of the season's events during an interview.

E. H. (Ted) Law,

Chairman

Propaganda and Publicity Committee

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TODAY'S TEAMS

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Muzzin	Novacetik	Cerniza	Rubini	
	Pitoni	Copeland	Vidovic	Rubini
		●		
Tolnay	Zakomarok	Caldarevic	Ristic	Roubel
	Moucka	Rakic	Szendy	
	Andelkolvic	Nickolic	Dolenc	
		J.U.S.T.		

Reserve, Juventus: Bosao.

SPECIAL NOTICE

All clubs must finalise their accounts with the V.A.S.F.A. by September 21, 1951, so that the association's books may be closed. Clubs which are in arrears after that date will be unfinancial and not entitled to vote at the annual general meeting of the V.A.S.F.A.

A. Kerr, Hon. Treasurer V.A.S.F.A.

HALLOWE'EN PARTY

The Brighton ladies' social committee is holding a Hallowe'en Party on Saturday evening, September 29, at the Scout Hall, Hurlingham Park. Come along, enjoy the games and dancing and celebrate the conclusion of a successful season.

J. MacEwan, Social Secretary.



In this land of ours — in this Australia of kindness, of friendship, of good humoured tolerance . . . perhaps no beverage is more at home than good Australian beer. For beer is a drink Australians like. It is a part of pleasant living, of good fellowship, of sensible moderation. And our right to enjoy it . . . this too is a part of our Australian heritage of personal freedom.

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Was the F.A. Tour a Success?

From "Soccer News" Overseas Correspondent

RICHARD DREYFUS



"Australian soccer enthusiasts must be reflecting rather sadly upon the boomerang effect the F.A. team's tour had upon their country. As a result of the vast superiority of the side and its ridiculously easy victories, gates have fallen and many Australians are now convinced they should stick to cricket and rugby."

This is how London's second biggest evening paper, "The Star," recently summed up—under a screaming four column headline—the F.A. team's tour of the Commonwealth.

Unfortunately, I left Australia before the tour began and thus I am not sure whether there is even an inkling of truth in the "Star's" article. If the paper's statement, that "it is ironical to have to face the possibility that our 1951 side has retarded rather than increased the tempo of soccer development in Australia," is pure fabrication—then Englishmen will never know it.

For British newspapers almost ignored the tour. Sometimes, down in the left-hand bottom corner of a left-hand page, you would find a short item like:—
"The F.A. team touring Australia yesterday defeated Victoria 5:0. Goalkickers were

For the Tests this was expanded by a sentence or two telling you the half-time scores and how the goals were scored. The highlight of the tour was undoubtedly, according to the English papers, the "Glass Strewn on Soccer Pitch" sensation at Hobart. When the Englishmen won 12:0 in that city, the item reporting the victory was "lifted up" from its usual place at the bottom of the sports page—only to return there for the next match.

"Runaway wins like those our men have had on this tour can be discouraging for those at the losing end," the "Star" confides. "Clearly we have overestimated the strength of Australian soccer."

"In a country which has produced some of the greatest cricketers and rugby players in the history of these games, it seems strange that soccer has not advanced very far in a quarter of a century," —the "Star" says.

It is a pity that this "Star" writer did not himself make the trip to Australia. He could have seen for himself in what magnificent manner soccer in Australia has leaped ahead in the last 25 years.

I sincerely hope that the day will not be far off when an Australian eleven will beat the hide off the best that the Mother Country can put on the field—and do it in the United Kingdom where soccer was born.

Then, perhaps, will they give credit where credit is due.

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The Knight of the Whistle

By REX BENSON

"Yallourn Spectator" has raised an interesting point when commenting on the two linesmen who officiated in a recent match at Yallourn. I think that this must have been the game with Brighton. He mentioned that both were qualified but disapproved of their taking any action other than flagging for throw-ins. He then goes on to say that the Association should appoint qualified linesmen. I would ask if they would merely be used to signal a throw-in, which any intelligent youth could do.

Providing the referee has stated his requirements before the game starts, surely a qualified linesman should be able to help the man with the whistle in more ways than that. It can be freely admitted that a high standard of refereeing should exist in the English League, where a diagonal system of "running the line" is employed. Each linesman keeps to one half of the field, and does not patrol beyond the centre-line. While this puts an extra onus on the referee for some of the throw-ins, the great advantage is that one linesman can more easily keep abreast of the ball to spot doubtful offside cases, or tell whether the ball has wholly crossed the goal line in certain cases. All of these have a far greater bearing on the game than the ball going out over the side-line. The linesman also has the duty of raising his flag in a stationary position when in his opinion a goal has been fairly scored. In every case of course the referee's decision is final, but it is of interest to remark that in all the reports I have just read of the Cup Final, the writers state that Milburn's first goal could not have been offside as the linesman did not flag for an offence.

If linesmen are to act in the above capacity, they will have to be appointed. It would be of no use relying on a twelfth member of either team, who would suffer from the human nature that would lead to impartial decisions.

I always feel sorry for the maligned ref. When asked once in Egypt if I knew enough about the game to referee a local service Cup Final, I consented to take charge. Long before half-time I wished my reply had been that I jolly well knew enough about the game not to.



SPECIAL NOTICE

All clubs must finalise their accounts for "Soccer News" before September 30, so that our books may be closed on that date.

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Soccer Pioneer Passes

Soccer lost another great pioneer when Mr. W. Duff, senr., passed away at his residence, Barry Street, South Yarra, last Saturday night, September 15.

Mr. Duff did sterling work in furthering the interest of soccer in his younger days and was one of the founders of the South Yarra soccer club. By his very great enthusiasm and hard work he was instrumental in building a powerful team. One of the advocates of school-boy teams, he devoted a great deal of his time to training lads. Many present day players developed as the result of the training they received at his hands as lads at Fawkner Park.

All the members of South Yarra soccer club convey their heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Duff and family in their time of sorrow.



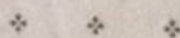
Junior Section

A shock to all lovers of soccer football was the death of Ken Martin, the South Yarra under 19 junior who passed away last Monday. His death was the result of complications following a kick on the knee which he received while playing in a game at the end of last season.

The circumstance culminating in the loss of this young lad's life is nothing short of a tragedy. It is one which, I am sure, will not fail to reach the hearts of all mothers and fathers. Such being the case, you cannot and I am sure you will not fail to support my appeal to aid the boy's parents and thus help relieve them of a heavy burden which they have incurred during the last twelve months.

A collection at the first semi-final yielded the very fine sum of £26/10/-, for which we are deeply grateful.

Arrangements for the playing of a benefit match are in the hands of Mr. Jock Parker, chairman of the Junior Association. This is being supported wholeheartedly by Mr. Tom Jack, captain of Brighton and Mr. Paddy Mulcahy, of Park Rangers.



E. H. Law.

FINAL LEAGUE TABLE. SEASON 1951

First Division

	P	W	L	D	F	A	P		P	W	L	D	F	A	P
Yallourn	18	11	1	6	46	27	28	South Yarra	18	7	8	3	46	38	17
Sunshine Utd.	18	11	5	2	54	32	24	Park Rangers	18	7	7	4	41	36	16
Brighton	18	9	4	5	54	27	23	Footscray City	18	6	9	3	34	51	15
Prabon	18	10	5	3	60	43	23	Sandringham City	18	5	9	4	37	50	14
Box Hill	18	9	7	2	43	41	20	Sunshine City	18	6	18	0	17	87	0

Premiers:—YALLOURN

Relegated to Division 2. Season 1952: Sunshine City and Sandringham City.

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Soccer Illegal In England

By Stuart Beaton

Yes, the heading may sound queer, but it is a fact. Every football player and spectator is liable to severe penalties by act of Parliament, legal enactments which have never been repealed. In the times of Queen Elizabeth any who indulged in the sport of football, or who were present as spectators, were subject to penalties in the shape of fines or imprisonment. These laws have never been repealed. It is hardly likely however that players or spectators will be debarred from their favourite sport, for it is not likely that even the most fanatical spoil-sport will take advantage of laws which may be said to be obsolete through disuse.

In 1579 one Dennis Wogan was fined ten pounds and placed in prison for one week for the offence of having kicked off at a football match. The reason for the ban at this period was the roughness of the sport.

An Elizabethan writes of the game thus: "Sometimes the players' necks are broken, sometimes their heads, sometimes their legs . . . they meet one bewixt two to dash him against the hart with their elbowes, to butt him in the ribs with their fists, and with their knees to catch him in the back and pitch him on his neck."

The last paragraph is not an instruction to players on how to foul an opponent.

NETS!!!

Moreland Club has two sets of old nets in fairly good condition, which the committee feels some club might wish to purchase for £5 per set.

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